



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/924,783	08/07/2001	Jacky G. Duchamp	25141-2590	5784

24201 7590 06/27/2002

FULWIDER PATTON LEE & UTECHT, LLP
HOWARD HUGHES CENTER
6060 CENTER DRIVE
TENTH FLOOR
LOS ANGELES, CA 90045

EXAMINER

LAM, ANN Y

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

3763

DATE MAILED: 06/27/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/924,783	Applicant(s) DUCHAMP, JACKY G.	
	Examiner Ann Y. Larn	Art Unit 3763	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) <u>5</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for a butt-joint between the tip member and the balloon distal shaft section, does not reasonably provide enablement for a lap-joint between the distal balloon shaft and the tip member. The specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the invention commensurate in scope with these claims. The written description and the drawings disclose a butt-joint between the tip member and the balloon distal shaft, but not a lap-joint.

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 12 is an incomplete sentence.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-5 and 11-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bazell et al., 3,884,242. Bazell et al. discloses a catheter shaft (2) having a guidewire receiving lumen (29) extending to a port (near 25) at the catheter shaft distal end and an inflation lumen (9); a balloon (16) having a proximal balloon shaft section adjacent the balloon proximal end, and a distal balloon shaft section adjacent the balloon distal end and being adhesively secured to the catheter shaft, see column 7, lines 42-50, and column 10, lines 41-44; and a tip member (19) on the distal end of the catheter and being in fluid communication with the catheter shaft guidewire receiving lumen, see Figure 3; the proximal end adhesively joined to the balloon distal shaft section, see column 8, lines 50-61, and the catheter shaft, see column 7, lines 64-67.

As to claim 2, the catheter shaft (2) extends distally beyond the balloon distal end, see Figure 7.

As to claim 3, the tip member proximal end forms a butt-joint with the balloon distal shaft section, see column 10, lines 35-37, and see column 12, lines 39-40.

As to claim 4, the tip member proximal ends (36) extends proximally over the distal end of the catheter shaft, see Figure 7.

As to claim 5, the distal balloon shaft (16) forms a lap-joint with the proximal end of the tip member (the tip member here being 19 and distal portion of 2).

As to claim 11, the adhesive for forming the adhesive seal between the balloon distal shaft section and the catheter shaft extends along the length of the balloon distal shaft section, see column 7, lines 42-50, and see reference number 17 and 17', in Figures 3 and 7.

As to claims 13 and 14, Bazell et al. discloses the step of curing the adhesive to form the catheter assembly in column 7, lines 42-47.

Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Inoue, 5,100,386.

Inoue discloses a catheter shaft (10) having a guidewire receiving lumen (defined by inner tube 14) extending to a port (near 26) at the catheter shaft distal end and an inflation lumen (18); a balloon (16) having a proximal balloon shaft section adjacent the balloon proximal end, and a distal balloon shaft section adjacent the balloon distal end and being adhesively secured to the catheter shaft, see column 5, lines 16-18, and a tip member (16) on the distal end of the catheter and being in fluid communication with the catheter shaft guidewire receiving lumen, see Figure 1; the proximal end adhesively joined to the balloon distal shaft section, see column 3, lines 20-25.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

Art Unit: 3763

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 6-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Bazell et al., 3,884,242.

Bazell et al. discloses the invention substantially as claimed. However, Bazell et al. does not disclose the length that the distal end of the catheter shaft extends distally beyond the balloon distal end, nor the length that the proximal end of the tip member extends distally over the catheter shaft as claimed by Applicant. However, Bazell et al. teaches that various modifications within the scope of the invention can be made by one of ordinary skill in the art without departing from the spirit thereof, see column 14, lines 5-8. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make the Bazell et al. device with the various lengths as claimed by Applicant, as modifications that are within the scope of the invention as taught by Bazell et al.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ann Y. Lam whose telephone number is (703) 306-5560. The examiner can normally be reached on T-F 8-6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian L. Casler can be reached on (703)308-3552. The fax phone numbers

Application/Control Number: 09/924,783

Page 6


Art Unit: 3763

for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703)305-3590 for regular communications and (703)306-4520 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)308-0858.

A.L.

June 16, 2002


ANH TUAN T. NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER
